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12 October 1984
OLL: 84-3818

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
FROM: Charles A. Briggs
Director, Office of Legislative Liaison
SUBJECT: Weekly Report

Items of Interest1. Continuing Resolution

Following is a summary of key items addressed in the CR:

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-- Drug Czar

The Agency successfully amended the Drug Czar provision to prevent the National Narcotics Board and its Chairman from taking any actions inconsistent with the DCI's authorities and responsibilities.

-- Computer Fraud

While the Agency's proposed exemption was inadvertently omitted from this legislation, the scope of the legislation has been so narrowed that it will not affect Community equities. The Department of Justice has informally indicated that the legislation will not prohibit Agency operations.

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SECRET-- Domestic Relocation

The Warner-Wolf domestic relocation relief, passed last November, was amended to expand the tax reimbursement provisions, thus enhancing the benefits for Agency personnel.

2. Intelligence Authorization Bill

Our Intelligence Authorization Bill passed the House and Senate yesterday. It includes Agency Guard Protection Authorities and provisions addressing diplomatic reciprocity. This bill also includes the prohibition on Nicaraguan funding contained in the Continuing Resolution.

3. Simpson-Mazzoli Immigration Bill

The Agency was successful in obtaining an exemption from the anti-discrimination provision of the Simpson-Mazzoli Immigration Bill; however, this bill died in conference.

4. El Salvador

On 10 October 1984, SSCI submitted to the Clerk of the Senate its public report on the scope of its investigation and key findings regarding recent political violence in El Salvador. The report was generally favorable to CIA, and was criticized by Senator Kennedy (D. MA.). (Copy of press release attached.)

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Charles A. Briggs
Director, Office of Legislative Liaison

Attachment

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Senate Select Committee on Intelligence

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 10, 1984

CONTACT: Sam Bouchard
224-1719

RECENT POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN EL SALVADOR

The Select Committee on Intelligence has conducted an investigation of Recent Political Violence in El Salvador. The Committee primarily investigated allegations concerning involvement of U.S. government agencies and officials with organizations and individuals in El Salvador that may have been associated with the recent political violence in that country, especially violence perpetrated by extreme rightwing death squads. The Committee also reviewed U.S. policy against political violence in El Salvador and the measures taken to implement it. Several members of the staff participated in this investigation. Staff teams were formed to review the records of concerned agencies and to interview agency personnel.

The staff conducted extensive studies concerning the programs and activities of the following agencies and their personnel: The Central Intelligence Agency; the Department of Defense, including the Defense Intelligence Agency, the

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U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), and the National Security Agency; the Department of State, including the Agency for International Development; and the Department of Justice, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Executive branch cooperation was satisfactory. Although official responses to Committee questions were often found to be insufficient and special arrangements had to be made to accomodate confidentiality and security concerns, no specific request for information was refused by the Executive branch.

The Committee's conclusions are based on extensive research, which has resulted in the preparation of detailed classified reports totalling hundreds of pages, concerning the activities of all the U.S. government agencies within the scope of the investigation and the information held by them on political violence in El Salvador. The Committee has today submitted to the Clerk of the Senate a public report on the scope of its investigation and its key findings. The Committee's general conclusions are as follows:

"The Committee found ample evidence that the policy of the United States throughout the period under review was consistently to oppose political violence in El Salvador, including violence by extreme rightwing death squads. The degree to which Executive branch agencies acted directly with Salvadoran authorities to combat political violence generally reflected their judgments about what was achievable in the Salvadoran political context.

"The Committee found that, in the course of carrying out their missions implementing overall U.S. policy to assist the Government of El Salvador in resisting the leftist insurgency, elements of the U.S. government have

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unavoidably had contact with Salvadoran organizations and individuals strongly suspected of being involved in or associated with political violence. The Committee believes that, for the most part, the problems that have arisen in this regard are of the type which may occur whenever the U.S. government seeks to obtain intelligence on the activities of clandestine organizations such as international terrorist groups or narcotics rings, or to assist foreign governments engaged in violent confrontations with subversive forces.

"The Committee found no evidence to support the allegation that elements of the U.S. government have deliberately supported, encouraged or acquiesced in acts of political violence in El Salvador, including extreme rightwing death squad activity. Indeed, the Committee discovered substantial material indicating that U.S. agencies have attempted to ameliorate political violence by several means, including raising official awareness of the importance of suppressing such activities (especially by members of the Salvadoran political and military establishments), providing assistance to official Salvadoran security organizations to develop more humane methods of operation, and working directly with Salvadoran authorities to resolve many specific cases of political violence.

"The Committee believes that, in nearly all instances, contacts between U.S. agencies and Salvadoran organizations or individuals suspected of being involved in political violence have been managed satisfactorily. The Committee has, however, called to the attention of the Executive branch some instances of concern in the handling of particular relationships.

"The Committee also has recommended certain improvements in the way U.S. government agencies coordinate and manage their operations in difficult situations such as that with respect to internal security in El Salvador. The Committee believes it is important for U.S. policies and guidelines concerning relationships with foreign organizations and individuals suspected of involvement in political violence to be as explicit as possible. The Committee also believes that further efforts should be made to verify the accuracy of reports of political violence attributable to local organizations or individuals who are receiving U.S. assistance or with whom the U.S. government is maintaining contact."

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